



# **NEWS RELEASE**

## **For Immediate Release**

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District Attorney

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### **Hesperia Man Arrested for Auto Insurance Fraud**

San Bernardino, CA - On Wednesday, November 5, 2008, Deputies from the San Bernardino County Sheriff Department's Multiple Enforcement Team (M.E.T.) of the Hesperia Police Department, working in conjunction with Investigators with the San Bernardino County District Attorney's Office, arrested Samuel Llamas, 23, of Hesperia. Llamas was arrested at his auto body repair shop for an outstanding auto insurance fraud warrant.

The Bureau of Automotive Repair (B.A.R.) initiated the Investigation in November 2007 when Llamas' auto body repair business performed auto insurance repair work without a business license. In July 2008, a consumer, who was suspicious of some repairs, contacted B.A.R. and requested that their vehicle be inspected after being repaired at Llamas Auto Body. B.A.R. investigators substantiated that Llamas charged the insurance company for new parts, while in actuality Llamas repaired the vehicle with "used" and "repaired" vehicle parts.

B.A.R submitted the investigation to the San Bernardino County District Attorney's Auto Insurance Fraud Unit for review. Charges were filed alleging that Llamas committed insurance fraud and grand theft because he profited in excess of \$4,000 for the bogus repair work.

A felony warrant was issued for Llamas and, after his arrest, he was booked at the Sheriff's Victor Valley Jail where his bail was set at \$25,000.

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